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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Arie BESEMER et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

CARBOHYDRATE OXIDATION PRODUCTS AND DERIVATIVES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation of the filing fee, please substitute Claims 10-14 as originally filed, which appear on page 10, with Claims 10-14 as filed in the Article 34 amendment of December 5, 2000. The page containing Claims 10-14 is marked "AMENDED SHEET" and is attached hereto. Following the insertion of Claims 10-14, please amend these claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-14.

Add new claims 15-29.

--15. (New) An oxidized carbohydrate derived from a carbohydrate containing 1,2-dihydroxyethylene groups in its repeating units, the 1,2-dihydroxyethylene groups having at least partially been oxidized to dialdehyde groups, and a part of the aldehyde groups having been oxidized to carboxylic acid groups, the ratio